

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1045

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
SUBJ: AIRCRAFT CROSS SERVICING AT ALLIED AIR BASES

REF: A. SHAPE AD-70 THIRD REPORT ON LOGISTICS SUPPORT,
JAN 6, 1975 (1240.06/18-2-1-1165/75)
B. STANAG 3430
C. SHAPE AIRCRAFT CROSS SERVICING POLICY LETTER,
FEB 19, 1974 (6070.02/18-3-132/74)
D. DPC/D(74)21, COUNTRY CHAPTERS

SUMMARY. A MAJOR CONSTRAINT ON AIR POWER IN EUROPE IS A LACK
OF CAPABILITY AT OTHER THAN HOME BASES TO SERVICE TACTICAL
FIGHTER AIRCRAFT FOR COMBAT MISSIONS. BY IMPLEMENTING AIR-
CRAFT CROSS SERVICING PROVISIONS IN NATO STANDARDIZATION
AGREEMENT 3430, ALLIES COULD IMPROVE FLEXIBILITY AND EFFECTIVE-
NESS OF THEIR AIR FORCES. THESE PROVISIONS ARE EXPENSIVE IN
RESOURCES AND MANPOWER AND WOULD REQUIRE HIGH LEVEL NATIONAL
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DECISIONS TO IMPLEMENT. MISSION RECOMMENDS WASHINGTON CON-
SIDER STEPS TO IMPROVE AIRCRAFT CROSS SERVICING IN ALLIED
COMMAND EUROPE. REQUEST WASHINGTON COMMENTS. END SUMMARY.

1. NATO AIR FORCES HAVE NOT DEVELOPED A FULL CAPABILITY TO REARM AND PREPARE AIRCRAFT OF OTHER ALLIES FOR COMBAT MISSIONS (REF A). AS IT STANDS NOW IF ALLIED AIRCRAFT LAND AT OTHER THAN A NATIONAL HOME BASE AFTER EXPENDING ARMAMENTS, THE AIRCRAFT'S PARENT UNIT MUST DEPLOY RESERVICING AND LOGISTICS CAPABILITIES TO THAT BASE. NATO AIR FORCES REQUIRE A NETWORK OF PRE-DESIGNATED ALTERNATE OR DIVERSION AIRFIELDS THROUGHOUT ACE AND THESE OTHER AIRFIELDS MUST HAVE CROSS SERVICING CAPABILITIES TO PROVIDE COMMANDERS WITH THE FLEXIBILITY TO RECOVER AND REGENERAGE COMBAT MISSIONS.

2. THE NATO MILITARY AGENCY FOR STANDARDIZATION HAS DEVELOPED STANDARDIZATION AGREEMENTS OUTLINING CROSS SERVICING RESPONSIBILITIES (REF B). THESE RESPONSIBILITIES ARE CATEGORIZED BY TWO LEVELS OF AIRCRAFT SERVICE CAPABILITY. STAGE A SERVICE INCLUDES REFUELING, REPLENISHMENT OF FLUIDS AND GASES AND STARTING FACILITIES; I.E., "GET-ME-HOME" CAPABILITY. STAGE B CROSS SERVICING ENCOMPASSES STAGE A PROVISIONS AND IN ADDITION PREPARES THE AIRCRAFT, INCLUDING MUNITIONS LOADING, FOR COMBAT MISSIONS. ALLIES HAVE RATIFIED BOTH STAGE A AND STAGE B AGREEMENTS, AND ALL EXCEPT ICELAND, LUXEMBOURG, AND PORTUGAL HAVE ADEQUATE STAGE A CAPABILITIES. HOWEVER, ONLY TWO NATIONS, CANADA AND FRB HAVE MADE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS TOWARD A FULL STAGE B CROSS SERVICING CAPABILITY.

3. PROBLEMS PREVENTING FULL CROSS SERVICING CAPABILITY AT NATO AIR BASES ARE: (1) INADEQUATE AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT; (2) LACK OF TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION OF SPECIALISTS; (3) LACK OF TECHNICAL DATA; (4) LIMITED ARMAMENT SUPPLIES; (5) LACK OF MUNITIONS TRAINING WEAPONS; (6) INSUFFICIENT WEAPONS LOAD VEHICLES AND TOOLS, AND (7) LACK OF ADAPTOR EQUIPMENT FOR STAGE B CROSS SERVICING (REF D). TO CORRECT THESE DEFICIENCIES, NATIONS MUST REALLOCATE SUBSTANTIAL NATIONAL RESOURCES AND REMOVE RESERVATIONS ON CERTAIN CROSS SERVICING MEASURES.

4. AN IMPORTANT STEP THE US COULD TAKE TO IMPROVE
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THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ALLIED AIR FORCES WOULD BE TO REMOVE RESERVATIONS ON STAGE B CROSS SERVICING TO ALLOW CROSS SERVICING OF ALLIED AIR FORCE AIRCRAFT IN WARTIME AT ALL CENTRAL REGION TACTICAL FIGHTER BASES AND AT SELECTED BASES IN THE SOUTHERN REGION. IN PRACTICAL TERMS, THIS MEANS US SHOULD: (1) RELEASE TECHNICAL DATA AND SAFETY CRITERIA TO ALLIED COMMAND EUROPE CROSS SERVICING INFORMATION CENTER IN ORDER TO MEET AGREED OPERATIONAL AND SAFETY STANDARDS; (2) PROVIDE INERT TRAINING MUNITIONS AT ALLIED BASES AS TRAINING AIDS FOR MAINTENANCE SUPERVISORS AND CLASSROOM INSTRUCTORS; (3) PERIODICALLY EXERCISE BASES THAT HAVE A STAGE B TURN AROUND CAPABILITY, AND (4) CERTIFY MUNITIONS AND MAINTENANCE CREWS TO LOAD CERTAIN ALLIED AIRCRAFT.

5. IN ADDITION, THE US COULD TAKE THE INITIATIVE IN THE DRC TO URGE ALLIES TO IMPROVE AIRCRAFT CROSS SERVICING CAPABILITY. WE COULD ASK ALLIES TO INDICATE IN COUNTRY RESPONSES TO THE DEFENSE PLANNING QUESTIONNAIRE THEIR PERFORMANCE IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS CALLED FOR IN REFS B AND C:

- A. FURNISHING NECESSARY AIRCRAFT AND ARMAMENT TECHNICAL DATA FOR AIRCRAFT CROSS SERVICING TO THE ALLIED COMMAND EUROPE INFORMATION CENTER.
- B. IMPLEMENTING STAGE B CROSS SERVICING AT LOCATIONS ALLIED REGIONAL COMMANDERS SELECT.
- C. PROVIDING TRAINING MUNITIONS WHEN NECESSARY TO ALLIED STAGE B CROSS SERVICING BASES SO THAT ALLIES CAN TRAIN THEIR PERSONNEL TO SERVICE AIRCRAFT NOT ASSIGNED TO THOSE BASES.
- D. MAKING AVAILABLE TO APPROPRIATE ALLIED BASES ADEQUATE BOMB LOADING VEHICLES, ADAPTERS, PYLONS, ELECTRICAL AND HYDRAULIC POWER UNITS AS NECESSARY FOR STAGE B CROSS SERVICING OF AIRCRAFT NOT ASSIGNED TO THOSE BASES WITH GENERAL PURPOSE BOMBS, AIR-TO-AIR MISSILES, ROCKETS AND GUNS.

6. WE COULD ALSO PROPOSE IN THE DRC THAT ALLIES AGREE TO IMPLEMENT NATO FORCE GOALS ON STAGE B CROSS SERVICING OF AIRCRAFT BY ALLOCATING RESOURCES TO SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING TYPES OF NATO COMMAND PROGRAMS:

- A. WEAPONS AND MAINTENANCE TRAINING TO CERTIFY WEAPONS LOADING AND MAINTENANCE SPECIALISTS.
- B. EXERCISING STAGE B CROSS SERVICING BASES ON A
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QUARTERLY BASIS

- C. STOCKING MUNITIONS AT STAGE B CROSS SERVICING BASES AT LEVELS WHICH SACEUR WOULD PRESCRIBE.

7. REQUEST WASHINGTON COMMENTS ON MISSION APPROACH TO IMPROVE AIRCRAFT CROSS SERVICING IN ALLIED COMMAND EUROPE.MCAULIFFE

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